



AYSO Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Attendance:

Executive Board			Board Members / Attendees
X	Bryan Samuels, Commissioner	X	Betsy DeLeon, Spring Cup Coordinator
X	Erik Gammell, Assistant Commissioner	X	Doug Decauwer, Spring Cup Coordinator
X	Afshin Ketabi, Secretary	X	Dana Abelson, Scholarship Coordinator
X	Al Azat, Regional Referee Administrator	X	Frank Kim, Tournament Coordinator
X	Andrew Philpot, Registrar	X	Jeremy Gonzalez, EXTRA Coordinator
X	Anna Li, CVPA	X	Larry Abelson, Assistant Referee Administrator
X	Noel Garcia, Commissioner Emeritus	X	Tom Cornwell, Secretary Emeritus
X	Rafi Angelats, Treasurer	X	Gregorio Pacheco
	Karen Tamis, Safety Director		
	Tito Villanueva, Regional Coach Administrator		

Discussion:

Bryan opened the meeting at 7:11 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Erik moved to approve the minutes of the April Board meeting but noted some items were misstated. Larry suggested a broader review of the minutes prior to a determination of whether to approve.

Board Update

Bryan introduced Frank Kim as the new Tournament Coordinator, previously held by Jason Goldman. Dana recommended the Board secure an Auditor to perform a periodic review of the financials. She noted taking auditor training at a prior AYSO Expo and volunteered for the role. Jeremy reported that Jason Goldman will be the new Referee Coordinator for the EXTRA program, previously held by Phil Reed.

Secretary Vote

Erik moved that Afshin Ketabi be elected as the new Secretary for the Board. Dana seconded the motion. Bryan called the question. All were in favor with none opposed, and none abstaining.



Financials

Rafi provided a financial update and noted that we didn't have a lot of transactions in April. He noted the main drivers of expenses in April were a custom printed canopy for the Region, pins with the Region's logo, and support for meetings. Rafi noted we have two months remaining in the fiscal year and are currently approximately \$60,000 in the black.

Additionally, Rafi reported field-related expenses are typically a significant expenditure, but they have been reduced this year, partly driven by savings from the use of a field painting robot and partly from deferred maintenance. Nonetheless, field-related expenses are expected next fiscal year, particularly for Arroyo North. Bryan reported he will be attending an upcoming meeting with Hector Ornelas, the South Pasadena Little League, and a field maintenance company to discuss rehabbing the Arroyo North fields.

Rafi reported other drivers of decreased expenditures have been closer management of portable bathroom rentals, lower than budgeted referee-related expenses, and not holding a year-end volunteer appreciation party.

Erik moved to accept the financials. Andrew seconded the motion. Bryan called the question. All were in favor with none opposed, and none abstaining.

Spring Cup

Betsy and Doug provided an update following a meeting with Area 1C region leaders after the conclusion of the tournament. Betsy noted a number of challenges including the need to decide on the game format for next year. Further, she indicated the biggest takeaway from the tournament was the need to better communicate expectations for referee qualifications. She explained there was a significant issue with referees being on games who weren't the referees submitted by the Regions to qualify their teams to participate in the tournament. She also indicated the need to revisit the approach to disciplining coaches, particularly in light of the issues in the 14U Girls division. Additionally, Bryan noted a number of sanctions were given to Region 214 coaches during the tournament.

Referee Updates

Larry and Al reported on the successful Intermediate level class we recently hosted, which resulted in a high test passage rate. Larry noted the review session held the week prior was a key driver of the high pass rate. He also noted the Ken Aston Referee Camp is scheduled for Father's Day weekend at Chapman University and we are planning to offer regional referee classes in August. Al indicated he welcomes constructive feedback on referee performance directly via email or through the feedback form on the website.

Youth Referees

Bryan introduced the topic of increasing the participation of youth referees. He indicated the desire to have a youth referee coordinator and requested an adult volunteer work to support the youth referee coordinator. He suggested enlisting the youth referee coordinator to brainstorm ideas for how to incentivize youth referees to referee more games and noted he and Al discussed providing incentives and



rewards to youth referees. Noel indicated her daughter India and Victor Chen will volunteer to lead the youth referee effort. Betsy and Noel volunteered to be the adult coordinators for next season.

Fall Registration Updates

Andrew reported that 803 players had enrolled for the Fall core program to date. Bryan compared this year's enrollment for the core program to last year and noted there are 193 more players registered so far compared to this time last year. Bryan indicated he is planning on sending another email to encourage early bird registration before the deadline. He also noted the number of coaches are relatively lower in some of the boys divisions (e.g., 10U boys) compared to this time last year. Bryan suggested to have an agenda item for the next board meeting to focus on increasing parent volunteers for the Fall season.

Fall Planning

Due to the poor condition of the Arroyo fields, Bryan proposed to delay the start of the Fall season for 10U, 12U and 14U to allow time to perform maintenance on the fields. Bryan indicated Little League is planning on releasing Arroyo South to us around July 10, which is prior to the end of their permit, but they are not planning on releasing Arroyo North until their permit ends. Bryan proposed to have Upper Division, EXTRA, and U8 and below to start as usual.

Betsy asked if pushing start dates back would impact the Thanksgiving Turkey Tournament, which is a fundraiser for the region. Erik replied he believed we could still have the Thanksgiving Turkey Tournament and suggested having night games and to play games for 10U, 12U, and 14U on Saturdays and Sundays in order to compress the season.

Larry expressed concern about shutting down access to Arroyo South for such a long period of time. The group discussed some of the challenges of finding enough practice time without access to Arroyo South. Larry noted parent expectations are for one practice and one game per week. Rafi and Al discussed the idea of doing the field maintenance work on Arroyo South one year and Arroyo North the next year. Erik said he believed both fields are in such bad shape and should both be addressed this year.

Bryan suggested holding skills training clinics during the delayed timeframe. Bryan and Erik indicated they will continue to develop the idea of postponing the start of the Fall season and will bring more details back for discussion at the next board meeting.

New Business

Betsy inquired if there is a need to host more fingerprinting sessions and Anna replied August would be a good time to host another Live Scan fingerprinting session to facilitate background checks on new volunteers. Bryan suggested holding the fingerprinting session at the same time as coach and referee training sessions.

Adjournment

Al moved to close the meeting. Erik seconded the motion. Bryan called the question. All were in favor with none opposed, and none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.



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Minutes submitted by Afshin Ketabi, AYSO Region 214 Secretary.